



**U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement**

June 15, 2006

News Release

Framingham resident indicted for unlawfully producing and selling fake U.S. identification documents and for possessing document-making implements

BOSTON — A Brazilian man residing in Framingham was indicted yesterday in connection with his alleged production and sale of counterfeit green cards and Social Security cards and for possessing document-making implements.

United States Attorney Michael J. Sullivan and Matthew J. Etre, acting special agent-in-charge of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in Boston, announced that Éclair C. Teixeira, age 41 of 181 Hollis Street, Apt. #1, Framingham, Massachusetts, was charged in a four-count indictment with manufacturing and transferring false U.S. identification documents, and for possessing document-making materials and equipment.

According to the Indictment and other documents previously filed with the Court, a confidential source (“CS”) cooperates with ICE Task Force agents in an undercover investigation. It is alleged that through telephone calls, the CS made arrangements to purchase from Teixeira fraudulent green cards and social security cards on three separate occasions. It is alleged that on February 16, 2006, April 16, 2006 and May 18, 2006, the CS met with Teixeira at various locations in Framingham and provided Teixeira with photos, names and dates of birth to be used on the fraudulent documents. It is alleged that Teixeira left with the items and information and entered an apartment building located at 181 Hollis Street in Framingham. It is alleged that Teixeira operated his false document production business from an apartment he rented at this location. It is alleged that on each occasion Teixeira returned to the meeting places providing the CS with the fraudulent documents. It is alleged that the CS paid Teixeira a total of \$850 in cash for a total of 14 fraudulent identification documents, namely, green cards and social security cards.

Teixeira was among nine individuals arrested last week on federal charges of selling fraudulent U.S. identification documents. The arrests were the result of a weeklong effort by the newly created ICE Document and Benefit Fraud Task Force – one of only ten such task forces in the nation. Members of the task force include: ICE, the U.S. Secret Service, the Department of State’s Diplomatic Security Service, the Social Security Administration’s Office of Inspector General and the Middlesex County Sheriff’s Department.

Teixeira, arrested on June 8, 2006, remains in custody pending a detention hearing scheduled for June 16, 2006. If convicted, Teixeira faces a maximum penalty of 15 years in prison, to be followed

by 3 years of supervised release, and a fine of up to \$250,000. Additionally, upon completion of any prison sentence imposed, Teixeira faces deportation to his native Brazil.

The case is being investigated by the ICE Document and Benefit Fraud Task Force whose members include: Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the U.S. Secret Service, the Department of State's Diplomatic Security Service, the Social Security Administration's Office of Inspector General and the Middlesex County Sheriff's Department. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Antoinette E.M. Leoney in Sullivan's Major Crimes Unit.

The details contained in the Indictment are allegations. The defendant is presumed to be innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.